

**Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**July 26, 2005**  
**Fort Leonard Wood**

**Meeting Minutes**

Members in attendance: Senator Frank Barnitz, Craig Borchelt, Loretta Charleston, Rep. David Pearce, Kent Thomas, Robert L. Welling, Rep. Terry L. Witte, Dalton Wright, Senator Chris Koster.

Others in attendance: Sharon Gulick, DED; Donna Spickert, Senator Talent's Office; Larry Sexton; Bill Ransdall; Randy and Debbie Beck; Rep. David Day; Glen Stuckmeyer, Missouri Technology Park.

Making presentations: Robert Hagerdorn, Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Ike Skelton; CSM (R) Merle Jones, Friends of Fort Leonard Wood; Dr. Virgie Mahan, Committee of Fifty; Buz Harvey, Phelps for the Fort; Mark Premont, Director, Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, US Army Maneuver Support Center, Fort Leonard Wood; Ron Selfors, University of Missouri Technology Park, Fort Leonard Wood.

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Ken Thomas moved and Bob Welling seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the July 13<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

Presentations:

Bob Hagerdorn briefing on FLW

Mr. Hagerdorn said that Representative Skelton send his greetings said that he appreciates the important work of the commission. Distributed an information sheet (attached) on potential growth in FLW area – estimating that the Fort Leonard Wood will nearly double its population by FY09. The growth outlined in the handout is all non-BRAC growth. Much of the expansion at FLW and WAFB came through non-BRAC activities.

He also said that in addition to the additional military personnel, it is estimated that nearly 2,800 dependents will also be added to the area. Work of the Commission will be important to help improve the quality of life for the military families.

FLW is a medium-sized military facility. Members asked how many other bases were larger (based on acreage) – Ft. Sill, Ft. Benning, Ft. Riley, Wainwright (AK) are larger; some are 100,000 acres or more. FLW has 61,411 acres. With regard to personnel, there are still several larger than FLW. Discussed the question of buffer zones – FLW has a large buffer zone and encroachment isn't likely to be a problem and the Fort has sufficient land to allow for expansion. Some members felt that it would be important for the FLW or State to purchase the land available near the

fort to ensure future access – might be US forest land near the Big Piney River. If the National Park Service owns the land, they would have to make it available to other government agencies (e.g., Army) before it could be sold to the public.

Mr. Wright commented that there may be possibilities of joint training between FLW and WAFB, especially for maneuvers, map of the earth training and other training.

The Commission stopped for lunch and Chairman Wright thanked the Committee of Fifty for providing the lunch.

#### Friends of Fort Leonard Wood, Lebanon – CSM (R) Merle Jones

Moved to FLW from AL and retired here after 23 years in Army. Friends of Fort Leonard Wood established to give back to Army, show what Ozarks, especially Lebanon, has to offer. Significant events – partnered with AUSA; hold annual BBQ and golf event to help establish relationships with people from Lebanon and surrounding communities; lunches and dinners with commanding officers from base; host tours of area for new family members; welcome home banners for returning military; military appreciation night at I-44 Speedway, Royals; planning event for single soldiers at the Fort; also involved in the monthly new comers orientation event at the Fort. Key effort to support military families when soldiers are deployed. Work closely with other community groups and Army groups to coordinate their work.

#### Committee of Fifty – Dr. Virgie Mahan

Provided a history of the beginnings of the Fort and the cities of Waynesville and St. Robert. Just after Korean War a group of local citizen “lobbied” Washington to make Fort Leonard Wood a permanent military installation, which occurred in 1956. Around 1973 the Committee of Fifty was formally established; currently have about 60 members. Purpose is to support FLW in whatever way they can. Also do what they can to support the military personnel, e.g., they host lunches and provide gift certificates and other gifts to honor service members who have received base recognitions.

#### Phelps for the Fort, Rolla – Buz Harvey

Established in 2004 as a joint subcommittee of the Rolla and St. James chambers of commerce. Sees the potential that FLW offers to the community and treats it as a prized employer. Critical that we recognize the importance to keeping the employers that we already have rather than focusing on attracting new businesses. FLW is a huge economic driver in the local community. Don’t take FLW for granted – important to remember that the cost of FLW is a “decimal point in the DOD budget.”

K-12 education is a key issue for military personnel and its critical that Missouri ensure that education in the state is funded appropriately. Held focus groups with military personnel. Open dialogue between base and school principals/superintendents.

Creating a speakers bureau to go out into the local schools to talk about the military.  
Goal to create a community where 70-80% of the military retirees stay in the area.

Question raised about impact of new school foundation funding and the federal impact aid. Will change in new foundation formula be impacted by the federal funds?

Military Children Education Coalition addresses issues related to education requirements and impact on military dependents. Contact Virgie Mahan for details.

#### Fort Leonard Wood briefing – Mark Premont

Established in 1940 as part of build up for WWII but closed after end of War. Reactivated in 1950 in preparation for Korean War and made permanent in 1956. Base named after MG Leonard Wood. Engineer School moved to Fort in 1988. In 1995 USAF, USN, USMC began training at FLW. As result of BRAC military police and chemical schools moved to FLW in late 1990s.

Reviewed the structure of the schools and military units at the Fort as well as the initiatives such as land mines/demining training, environmental, virtual emergency response training simulation; technology park; basic training, non-commissioned officer training; officer's training, warrant officer's education; reserve component training; motor transport training; starting mine detection dog training; military police.

9,584 trainees; 5,234 permanent military; 11,748 family members, 2,223 civilians work on base; 13.4 million square feet under roof, 61,411 acres. About \$14 million in recent construction.

Fort Leonard Wood has \$740 million annually in direct economic impact, indirect impact of \$1.65 billion, and 17,857 jobs.

Discussion on local education and school district. Have a non-voting member on the local school board. Working on resolving problems of transferability of credits.

Research Park – a public/private partnership. Goal is to spur additional research and development, moves R&D closer to FLW and develops opportunities to move some of the technology into the marketplace. Provides opportunity for spousal employment (through growth of new companies). Good model is Vandenburg Air Force Base in California. The Fort Leonard Wood technology park is only model of its type right now.

#### Larry Sexton

Larry Sexton shared his experience with BRAC. Several schools were proposed in previous BRACs but didn't materialize until the 1995 cycle. Primary driver for decision was to be military value.

In 2002 they stood up a local group to address BRAC and did their evaluation and initial analysis showed low likelihood of closure of FLW or WAFB, but possibility of

gain of missions at FLW and no gain at WAFB. Looked at the facilities that were likely to close and what might move to FLW.

Important that Commission does an analysis of facilities in Missouri and what can be done to enhance their position. Also need to look at how the Secretary of Defense is rating Missouri bases and why. Suggested that the consultant look at the BRAC report and do some analysis – where our bases are rated and how they compare. Mr. Welling stated that the Spectrum Group did analyze the data for WAFB. Need to make the Spectrum and Burdeshaw reviews available to the consultant and include in our report to the Governor and General Assembly.

Rep Witte requested two lists be made up:

1. Every military facility and DOD related facility in Missouri and its potential for impact in future BRAC; if BRAC score is available, we need to determine the score and why it received the score.
2. Major military related industries in Missouri.

Ms. Charleston said that she could produce a list of all National Guard and military reserve facilities in the state.

#### Fort Leonard Wood Region – Ron Selfors

Vision for the FLW region, which includes Pulaski, Phelps and Laclede counties, is to be a national center for research, education, technology transfer and advanced manufacturing. Recently reached a major milestone – over 50% of the retirees stay in the area.

The regional group has a five-part program that is developing a web site for site selectors, conducting a target industries study and a labor market study, also putting together a competitiveness plan and a three-year direct marketing effort.

Technology Park has 62 acres in its plan, but has access to 250 acres. FLW has done a long-term lease (33 years with 33 year option) on the 62 acres with the University of Missouri. The Technology Park currently has 2 buildings, both of which are nearly full, with more than 20 tenants. Intended to be a R&D facilities, not a manufacturing facility. Products developed at the Technology Park will be manufactured at businesses located throughout the region.

Leonard Wood Institute is a collaboration effort of private businesses, academia and government. Focused on FLW but encourages business development in the area. Founding organizations include Missouri Enterprise, University of Missouri System, State of Missouri, Battelle, Boeing and Concurrent Technology Corporation.

Also working on a regional airport and education partnering.

Chair Wright said that the State should consider putting together a program similar to the Tech Park at WAFB to capture capabilities for business growth and job creation.

Senator Barnitz commented that UMR connection and capabilities should be expanded and utilized, especially for the simulation development that they could provide.

Lebanon is considering the creation of a campus setting where several colleges and universities could provide access to their programs in a single place. Rep. Witte said that similar facility was done in Mexico.

Mr. Welling asked for clarification on the funding for the Technology Park. Initial funding came from a state appropriation and from foundation funds through the University. Took a lot of vision and leadership both from military, state and university.

Question was raised if the Tech Park was considered as a “value” in the BRAC process? Unlikely since this is the only one in the country.

#### Other Commission Business

Annual Report – need to follow on the items discussed during Mr. Sexton’s presentation. In addition, staff will pull items from previous meetings to create a master list. If members have additional items they should get them to Sharon Gulick as soon as possible.

Current list includes:

- Zoning/encroachment
- Representation on local school boards
- MO National Guard impact on state economy
- Mass transit
- Recruiting challenges – some state and corporations offer “first in line” options for job interviews
- State military cemetery
- Job creation for spouses
- Reciprocating licensure between states – e.g., nurses, teachers, etc.
- “Missouri Troops to Teachers Program” Chad Schatz, Director, Veteran’s Education, DESE
- Waive penalties/fines for any active military personnel who miss key filings and reports for their businesses
- Address adult entertainment businesses that spring up around military bases

Chairman Wright reported that he has offered to meet informally with FLW spouse’s group to talk about issues that they are concerned with.

Mr. Welling suggested that all members send their ideas to Sharon and she’ll share with the Commission.

Mr. Welling suggested that we have someone from DESE and/or Higher Education to make a presentation to the Commission about educational issues.

Rep. Witte suggested a tour of the Ike Skelton Facility at the August meeting. Sharon will talk with Gen. Sidwell about an optional short tour of the facility. This will be scheduled prior to the 10:30 start of the business meeting.

Members questioned the work of the consultant, what is he doing? Has he produced any materials? Contract should not be extended without a full discussion of the Commission. They want to be fully involved in any future hiring. Requested that Mike Mills prepare a short report on consultant's activities.

#### August Agenda

Schedule representative from DESE at August meeting for a short (15 min) presentation. Put on agenda before break.

Discuss content and outline of the annual report at the August meeting. Commission has asked DED staff to write the report with assistance of Commission members.

Members discussed issues of concern such as allowing military personnel to serve as voting members on local school boards, training programs for spouses, etc. Commission members will come up with a list of organizations in other states that may have experience or knowledge regarding these issues to contact for information with regard to activities related to military support. They will e-mail Sharon the list or bring the names and addresses to the August meeting.

DED staff will research best practices, ways other states have improved relationship with military; legislation to benefit military, etc.

Rep. Witte felt that DED should have a full-time person assigned to work on military issues and help the state be prepared for the next round. For example, staff needs to understand the ratings that Mr. Sexton cited for FLW and WAFB – what do the ratings mean? What is it based on?

Members should bring their calendars to the August meeting to schedule future Commission meetings.

Kent Thomas moved and Craig Borchelt seconded motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes approved: 25 Aug 2005

Signature:



Dalton Wright, Commission Chair

**Summary of Unit Gains/Losses at Fort Leonard Wood  
FY05 to FY09 (IGPBS and BRAC)**  
*As of 8 July 2005*

**Confirmed Restationing Actions**

**FY05 Gain of 183:**

Activate the 50<sup>th</sup> Multi Role Bridge Company (will fall under the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion). 183 military authorizations.  
Already relocated to Fort Leonard Wood

**FY06 Gain of 527:**

Activate (relocate from Germany) one Engineer Combat Heavy Battalion (94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion). 517 military authorizations.  
Activate 2 Engineer Mine Dog Detachment HQs. 10 military authorizations.

**FY07 Gain of 261:**

Convert 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion form A, B,C Companies to two Mobility Augmentation Companies (MACs) and one Sapper Company. Total growth of 261 military authorizations.

**Total Confirmed Gains through FY07: 971**

**Tentative Restationing Actions**

**FY08 Gain of 549:**

Activate one Medium Cargo Truck Company. 172 military authorizations  
Activate one Sapper Company. 91 military authorizations.  
Activate one MP Combat Support Company. 170 military authorizations.  
Activate one Engineer Support Company. 116 military authorizations.

**FY09 Gain of 283:**

Convert 94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion A, B, C Companies to 3 Horizontal Construction Companies. 163 Military authorizations.  
Activate 4 Engineer Mine Dog Teams. 120 military authorizations.

**Tentative Restationing Gains FY08 and FY09: 832**

**Total Confirmed and Tentative Military Personnel Gains FY05 thru FY09 = 1,803**

Additional family members:  $(1,803 \times 70\% \text{ married} \times 2.4 \text{ dependents per married service member}) = 2,814$

**Total Confirmed and Tentative Net Population Growth = 1,803 + 3,029 = 4,832**

**BRAC Actions**

**BRAC 05 Decision**

Relocate Prime Power School from Fort Belvoir, VA. Gain of 11 military and 26 civilian authorizations.  
Consolidate Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson, SC. Loss of 31 military authorizations.

**BRAC Proposed Discretionary Moves**

Relocate Technical Escort Training from Redstone, AL. 10 military and 1 civilian authorizations.  
Establish 2 Companies of Basic Officer Leadership Course II (BOLC II). 50 military authorizations.  
Relocate 88M training from Fort Bliss. 112 military and 20 civilian authorizations.  
Realign 2 Companies of BT from Fort Sill, OK. 34 military authorizations.